Hingtgen, Robert J

From: Sent:

Margarette Morgan <morgan7070@cox.net> Wednesday, February 05, 2014 11:37 AM

To:

Hingtgen, Robert J

Subject:

Bonsall Sponsor Group response to Soitec Solar Projects Soitec Solar Boulevard.docx

Attachments:

Greetings,

This is the response from last night's Bonsall Sponsor Group meeting regarding the proposed Soitec Solar projects in the County of San Diego.

Margarette Morgan, Chair **Bonsall Sponsor Group**

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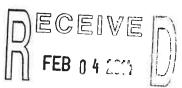
February 4, 2014

Mr. Robert Hingtgen, Planner Planning and Development Services 5510 Overland Ave, Suite #10 San Diego, CA 92123

Via email: Robert.hing(egen@sdcounty.ca.gov

RE: Soitec Solar PIER

Dear Mr. Hingtgen,



Planning and Development Services

The Bonsall Sponsor Group strongly opposes all of the solar projects described in the Soitec Solar PIER. We oppose these projects because of the significant adverse impacts to the natural environment that includes sensitive biological and cultural resources. Also, to be considered is the impact the projects will have on adjacent residents' quality of life.

Governor Brown has just declared that California is in a severe drought. These solar projects as proposed for the backcountry will have a deleterious impact on water supply, that includes well water, to the residents. The projects' construction will require the use of many millions of gallons of water which is clearly not available at this time. Any project that impacts water supply in anyway given current conditions is in no way justifiable.

The projects will not provide any long term employment for the area. It was stated that only a small trained maintenance force to adjust tracking for the panels would be needed. The proponents thus cannot claim increased employment in the area as a substantial benefit for the projects.

The impact of the Lan East and LanWest proposed projects are extreme and the existing residents and property owners have valid concerns regarding the impacts on their wells, roads, and the glare from the tracking equipment that is out of alignment. The size of the trackers which is stated to be 30 foot tall and 48 feet wide encompassing 280 acres of 1150 is an unreasonable visual blight on the residents of the area.

All of the Soitec Solar Development projects require the removal (scraping) of all natural vegetation to bare earth. Temperatures produced by the huge solar trackers are projected to be about 180 degrees Farenheit which will promote long term **prolonged "baking" of the landscape**. This is not a resulting pleasant aesthetic sight to contemplate.





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The proposed projects as stated in the 1400 plus page Solitec Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report concedes that it (all projects) can't be mitigated.

For all of the above reasons the Bonsall Sponsor Group supports the NO PROJECT alternative. We would recommend a solar project where solar panels are on the roof tops of existing buildings and easily accessible for connection to the existing electrical grid.

Sincerely,

Margarette Morgan, Chair Bonsall Sponsor Group



